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# EGHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



# REPORT

OF

# The Medical Officer of Health

**FOR**

1948



Egham Urban District Council.

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**R E P O R T**

TO THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF

**EGHAM, SURREY**

FOR

*THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1948*

BY

**A. GEDEN WILKINSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.**

Medical Officer of Health

# Egham Urban District Council

### Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health—A. GEDEN WILKINSON, M.B.,  
(Part-time) Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Senior Sanitary Inspector—H. C. LISTER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B., Certified Meat and Food Inspector. (Left the service of the Council on 30th October, 1948.)

Second Sanitary Inspector—F. G. BRITCHER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Certificate of the R.S.I. and  
S.I.E.J.B., Certified Meat and Food  
Inspector. (Promoted to Senior  
Sanitary Inspector, 1st November,  
1948.)

Third Sanitary Inspector—R. I. SHEPHERD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,  
Certificate of the R.S.I. and  
S.I.E.J.B., Certified Meat and Food  
Inspector. (Promoted to Second  
Sanitary Inspector, 1st December,  
1948.)

Rodent Officer—A. E. SILVER.

Housing Assistant (Temporary)—T. T. SANDERS.

Clerk—Miss D. WINGFIELD.

Trainee—M. P. SEARLE (from 27th September, 1948).

## SECTION A

## STATISTICS

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

					Average for five years		
					1948	1947	1943-1947
Population (Registrar General's estimate at mid-year) ... ... ... ...		24,080	22,650	21,820			
Live Births							
Legitimate ... ... ... ...		383	412	314.8			
Illegitimate ... ... ... ...		14	17	21.2			
Total ... ... ... ...		397	429	336			
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ...		16.49	18.94	15.36			
Still-Births							
Legitimate ... ... ... ...		9	10	7.2			
Illegitimate ... ... ... ...		1	0	0.8			
Total ... ... ... ...		10	10	8			
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births		24.57	22.78	23.32			
Deaths ... ... ... ...		236	269	231			
Death-rate (per 1,000 population) ...		9.80	11.88	10.58			
Deaths from puerperal causes							
29 Puerperal sepsis ... ... ...		0	0	0			
30 Other maternal causes ... ... ...		0	0	0			
Total ... ... ... ...		0	0	0			
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births		—	—	—			
Deaths of infants under one year of age							
Legitimate ... ... ... ...		8	16	11.6			
Illegitimate ... ... ... ...		0	2	1.2			
Total ... ... ... ...		8	18	12.8			
Death rate of infants under one year of age							
All infants per 1,000 live births ...		20.15	41.96	37.48			
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legiti- mate live births ... ... ...		20.88	38.84	36.36			
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegiti- mate live births ... ... ...		—	117.70	60.28			

## CAUSES OF DEATH (ALL AGES)

(Figures supplied by Registrar-General)

	Causes of Death			Males	Females	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	5	4	9
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	—	2	2
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	1	—	1
9.	Influenza	...	...	2	—	2
10.	Measles	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-enceph.	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infantile Encephalitis	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buc. cav. and œsoph. (M)	...	...	—	—	—
	uterus (F)	...	...	—	4	4
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	3	4	7
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	—	5	5
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	15	11	26
17.	Diabetes	...	...	1	—	1
18.	Intracranial vascular lesions	...	...	15	15	30
19.	Heart diseases	...	...	37	39	76
20.	Other diseases of Circulatory System	...	...	6	5	11
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	4	5	9
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	4	2	6
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	3	1	4
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	1	1	2
25.	Diarrhoea under two years	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	3	3	6
28.	Nephritis	...	...	2	1	3
29.	Puerperal and Post-abort. Sepsis	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal causes	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	1	—	1
32.	Congenital Malformation	...	...	2	—	2
33.	Suicide	...	...	1	1	2
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	2	—	2
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	4	1	5
36.	All other causes	...	...	6	14	20
All causes ...				118	118	236

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING  
THE YEAR 1948

Rate per 1,000 Total Civilian Population	Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
		Total Deaths under one year	Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)
		Pneumonia	
		Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis	
		Smallpox	
		Influenza	
		Tuberculosis	
		Diphtheria	
		Whooping Cough	
		Typhoid and Para- typhoid Fevers	
		All Causes	
England and Wales	17.9*	0.42*	10.8*
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, in- cluding London	20.0	0.52	11.6
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	19.2	0.43	10.7
London	20.1	0.39	11.6
Egham	15.36	0.42	9.80
Still Births			
Live Births			
All Causes			
Typhoid and Para- typhoid Fevers			
Whooping Cough			
Tuberculosis			
Diphtheria			
Influenza			
Smallpox			
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis			
Pneumonia			
Total Deaths under one year			
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)			

\* Per 1,000 total population

† Per 1,000 related births

## SECTION B

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

On 5th July the National Health Service Act, 1946, came into operation. The Local Health Authority (the Surrey County Council) took over the Ambulance and Medical Transport Services.

Immunisation for Diphtheria and Vaccination are now carried on by the Medical Practitioners' service, as well as being administered by my department as in the past.

Together with Walton and Weybridge, Chertsey, Bagshot, Woking, Frimley and Camberley, and part of Guildford Rural District, Egham is now grouped in the North-Western Division of the county under a Divisional Medical Officer. This new form of administration will gradually come into effect.

#### **Ambulance Facilities.**

On 5th July the ambulance service was taken over by the Surrey County Council.

For the first half of the year the Council continued to operate the three ambulances reported upon in detail in my Annual Report for 1947 with a staff of a Superintendent Driver, two Drivers, and a Telephonist who also undertook general duties as and when required. The service operated satisfactorily during that period.

#### **Medical Transport Service.**

This service also was taken over by the Surrey County Council on 5th July.

At the beginning of the year both the two privately owned vehicles, whose owners volunteered to use their cars for this service, were off the road due to the impossibility of obtaining essential spares and during that period the service was maintained, as far as possible, by the use of an ambulance.

The two volunteer cars eventually became available again from 1st April and continued to give excellent service until the time of taking over by the County Council.

The total mileage covered by these two cars during the three months for which they were serviceable was 1,391 as against 4,778 carried out by the three cars during the whole of 1947. The total number of journeys was 121 as against 203 in 1947 and in addition the ambulance service ran 42 journeys for the medical transport service involving a further mileage of 585.

#### **Laboratory Facilities.**

Bacteriological and Chemical examinations of water are carried out by the Clinical Research Association Ltd., London.

The practice of sending milk and ice-cream samples to the National Institute for Research in Dairying at Shinfield, near Reading, was continued until 30th September, after which date no more samples could

be dealt with by the Institute. Some delay arose in making other suitable arrangements. It was eventually decided to send such samples for the time being to the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom, but it is hoped ultimately to arrange for their examination at some more convenient centre.

The Camberwell Research Laboratories deal with the examination of swabs and other clinical material.

### **Infectious Cases.**

The Ottershaw Joint Hospital Board are responsible for the service and use their own Ambulance.

### **Nursing in the Home.**

The District Nursing Associations provide six fully trained and very efficient Nurses who spend all their time visiting patients in the district.

### **Midwives.**

These six Nurses are part-time Midwives under the Midwives Act, 1936, and work under the regulations of the County Council.

### **Scabies Treatment Centre.**

This service continues to be administered through my department. The Council employs a nurse on a half-time basis for the treatment of women and children. The treatment of adult males is carried out by appointment, usually during the evening, by a man attached to the Public Health Department for general work. Arrangements have worked satisfactorily during the year.

During the year a total of ten adults and thirteen children, three of whom were under school age, was treated at the Centre, involving a total number of treatments of 35. This shows a further decline in the figures of 45 adults and 71 children treated in 1947.

### **Clinics and other Treatment Centres.**

These are administered by the Surrey County Council and deal with Ante-Natal Care, Child Welfare, School Children, Dental Treatment and Tuberculosis.

## **SECTION C**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

#### **Water Supply.**

The South West Suburban Water Company supplies the greater part of the area, and this supply has proved satisfactory during the year, both in quality and quantity. A regular check has been maintained on the quality of the supply by means of a Joint Scheme with all the

Local Authorities served by this Company. Under this Scheme fortnightly samples of water are taken from the districts concerned in rotation, and the results of these samples are notified to each Local Authority.

The samples of water are taken as the water goes into supply and none have been taken of the raw water. Twenty-four samples were taken during the year, and both chemical and bacteriological analyses were made on each sample. All the reports showed the water to be safe for drinking purposes.

Of the 6,324 dwelling houses in the area it is estimated that 6,108 are on the main water supply. 223 premises have been connected to the Company's main during the year, eight as a result of notices served on owners by the local authority. This figure must be considered as very satisfactory in view of the galvanised iron barrel shortage.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE SCHEME

### **Sewage Disposal Works.**

These have continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year, though in long wet periods they are very hard pressed to deal with surface water which gains access to the system.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

The sewerage system continues to operate satisfactorily. New pumps of an improved type are being installed over a period in replacement of the older type, now becoming obsolete. The new Council Housing Scheme at Englefield Green has increased the flow in this area considerably, but the system has been designed for such an increase and no difficulty has been experienced so far.

### **Disposal of Cesspool Contents.**

The Council now operates two cesspool emptying vehicles, together with a combined cesspool gulley emptier, which is used approximately half time on cesspool emptying and during the remainder of its time by the Highways Department. The cesspool contents collected by these vehicles is emptied into the sewer at one of the Pumping Stations and is pumped direct from there to the Disposal Works; throughout the year no complaints were received from the public.

### **Rivers and Streams.**

While no cases of serious pollution were noted during the year, the condition of part of the Medlake Ditch gave cause for some concern. The flow of water in the ditch is very often sluggish and is impeded by miscellaneous rubbish deposited in the ditch from time to time by persons unknown. Part of the ditch in question was in a bad state, but the Thames Conservancy who normally clear the ditch, when necessary, declined liability for this part. As 50% of the frontage to

this ditch is owned by the Council, it was agreed in the latter part of the year to culvert the ditch a small section at a time as labour and materials allowed.

### Closet Accommodation.

A number of pail closets still exist in the rural parts of the district, the majority being in the Thorpe Ward, but most of the properties in the unsewered portions of the district are on water carriage systems connected to cesspools.

Towards the end of the year the Council decided to start a scheme for the emptying once a week of pail closets in the Thorpe Ward, using one of the cesspool emptying vehicles fitted with a special attachment. Arrangements for this service were completed by the end of the year and the service commenced on 1st January, 1949.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

During the first part of the year the refuse collection service was further improved until in most areas weekly collection had been achieved. Unfortunately in the interests of economy the service was reduced towards the end of the year to one collection in approximately ten days. Salvaged materials are generally collected in a separate trailer vehicle and the system works well. Refuse continues to be tipped in a disused gravel pit and during the summer my department carries out routine spraying for the control of flies and other insects. Complaints during the year have been few even in the hottest period.

Approx. No. of bins, etc. ... ... ...	8,000 weekly.
Approx. quantity of refuse (excluding trade refuse) ... ... ... ...	300 tons.
Particulars of salvage material collected ...	Paper, Rags, Bottles, Bones, Scrap Metal, and Kitchen Waste.
No. of lorries ... ... ... ...	5.
<b>Employees</b>	
No. of Collectors (excluding drivers) ...	17. *
No. of men at Pit. (including Foreman) ...	6.

### Collection of Pigswill.

A duplicate set of bins is now in use for this collection. After each weekly collection the soiled bins are cleaned and sprayed inside and out with a D.D.T. solution and are then ready to be taken out to replace the other set at the next collection. By this means bins are kept in a much cleaner state than before.

## SANITARY INSPECTION

The following inspections were made during the year :—

## Public Health Act, 1936

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	866
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	213
Infestations	...	...	...	75
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	75
Water Supply	...	...	...	180
Water Sampling	...	...	...	7
Drainage and Sewerage	...	...	...	533
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	445
Watercourses and Streams	...	...	...	38
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	35
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	1
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	32
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	120
				— 2620

## Housing Act

Dwelling Houses	...	...	...	124
Applicants for Rehousing	...	...	...	505
Council Houses	...	...	...	1151
Permitted Numbers	...	...	...	49
				— 1829

## Food and Drugs Act, etc.

Food Premises	...	...	...	45
Ice Cream Premises, etc.	...	...	...	24
Cowsheds, Dairies, Milkshops, etc.	...	...	...	25
Food Inspections	...	...	...	147
Ice Cream Sampling	...	...	...	58
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	29
P.H. Meat Regulations, 1924	...	...	...	58
				— 386

## Factories Act

Factories	...	...	...	35
Bakehouses	...	...	...	9
				— 44
Shops Act	...	...	...	24
Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919	...	...	...	2236
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	34
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	18
Requisitioning of Premises	...	...	...	31
Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	86
				— Total 7309

**Action taken.**

353 Informal Notices were served and 269 were complied with during the year.

24 Statutory Notices were served and 13 complied with during the year.

**RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919****Rodent Control.**

The Private Dwellings Scheme was completed on 31st December, 1947, but work was continued on the same basis until 31st March, 1948. From 1st April, 1948, a new scheme commenced whereby a consolidated grant of 50% of the approved net expenditure incurred was refunded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Throughout the year the staff engaged on rodent control consisted of one rodent officer, together with a rodent operator, who also undertook various other duties in the department such as disinfection, etc. With the smaller staff on this work the number of inspections and treatments made was naturally smaller than the previous year, but the number of complaints received was greater, due probably to the public becoming more aware of the Council's scheme of rodent control.

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2236
Rat Infestations Treated :						
Private Premises	...	...	...	...	495	
Business Premises	...	...	...	...	32	
Waste Land, etc.	...	...	...	...	9	
					536	
Reservoir						
Major	...	...	...	...	7	
Minor	...	...	...	...	529	
					536	
Estimated Kill						
Rat Carcasses recovered	...	...	...	...	7132	
					2172	
Mouse Infestations Treated :						
Private Premises	...	...	...	...	91	
Business Premises	...	...	...	...	3	
					94	
Major	...	...	...	...	3	
Minor	...	...	...	...	91	
					94	

Mouse Carcasses recovered	...	...	150
Complaints received :			
Rats	...	...	336
Mice	...	...	27
			<hr/>
			363

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

(i)	(a)	Council Houses	infested	...	...	9
			disinfested	...	...	9
	(b)	Private Houses	infested	...	...	7
			disinfested	...	...	7
	(c)	Requisitioned Properties	infested	...	...	6
			disinfested	...	...	6

## Methods Employed.

Proprietary brands of insecticides incorporating approximately 5% D.D.T. in a kerosene base were employed. The insecticide was sprayed behind picture rails, architraves, skirting boards and other fittings by the use of a needle jet, and then the whole wall surface was sprayed with the normal spreading jet. Where redecoration was necessary spraying was carried out after redecoration in order to obtain the maximum benefit from the residual deposit of D.D.T.

## GENERAL INFESTATION CONTROL

Apart from bed bugs my department also dealt during the year with the following infestations using a D.D.T. preparation in powder or liquid form, and, for wasps, Potassium Cyanide.

Ants	...	...	3
Cockroaches	...	...	4
Fleas	...	...	2
Mosquitoes and Flies	...	...	1
Wasps	...	...	11

## THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Ninety-five Premises are on the register, viz. :—

Garages and motor repairers	...	...	...	20
Engineers other than the above	...	...	...	25
Bakehouses	...	...	...	9
Builders	...	...	...	11
Sand, Gravel and similar trades	...	...	...	3
Tailors, Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous trades	...	...	...	20
<hr/>				95

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power ...	18	5	—
Factories without mechanical power	26	3	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—
Total	44	8	—

#### Defects Found.

	Number of Defects				Number of Defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
insufficient ... ... ...	1	1	—	1	—
unsuitable or defective ...	8	8	—	3	—
not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ... ...	1	—	1	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)					
Total	10	9	1	4	—

#### SCHOOLS

There are seven elementary, one secondary and three private schools. All these schools are served with the South West Suburban Water Company's main supply.

With the exception of the two elementary schools at Thorpe and Christchurch Road, Virginia Water, all are connected to the main drainage. In these two former instances main drainage facilities have not yet been provided.

In all cases connections to the main drainage system were made by utilising the old convenience buildings for the purpose, and, therefore, whilst on main drainage, the arrangements are not satisfactory as the conveniences at the elementary schools are in some remote corner of the playground—common planning in pre-main drainage days. This is not

only undesirable from the scholars' point of view, but in times of severe frost contributes to considerable difficulties in the way of "freeze-ups" by reason of the exposed and unprotected positions of these conveniences.

### **Station Road Schools.**

The surface water drainage system serving the playgrounds at the Station Road Schools is still unsatisfactory. Considerable flooding takes place during heavy rain, and this is particularly bad in the Boys' Department. The resurfacing and redrainage of these playgrounds is planned, but cannot be undertaken until the new surface water sewer has been laid by the Council in School Lane.

### **Egham Hythe Schools.**

The old Church Hall continued to be used during the year for canteen purposes and as an emergency classroom. The unsatisfactory conditions upon which I reported last year still continue, the sanitary accommodation and drainage arrangements giving particular cause for concern.

### **Thorpe Schools.**

These schools are served with pail closet and urinal accommodation. The latter is connected to a soakaway. These primitive arrangements are well maintained, and the closets are emptied twice weekly by this Council's conveyance.

### **Christchurch School.**

This school continues to be served by pail closets. These are emptied by a part-time employee into a cesspool at the rear of the school. This is not a satisfactory arrangement and as the school is to continue in existence the question of draining these closets to the cesspool should be considered.

It is impracticable to connect the premises to the Council's sewer by ordinary methods, but it is understood that the possibility of providing a pump to lift the sewage to the sewer has been under consideration.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

## Milk supplied 1948

		On Roll	Milk Roll	Grade	Per cent on Milk Roll
Egham	Mixed	446	360	Pasteurised	80.7
	Infants	155	151	Pasteurised	97.4
Englefield Green	Mixed	348	240	Pasteurised	69.0
	Infants	147	144	Pasteurised	97.9
Egham Hythe	Boys	309	290	Pasteurised	93.9
	Girls	302	290	Pasteurised	96.0
	Infants	256	256	Pasteurised	100.0
St. Ann's Heath		158	140	Pasteurised	94.8
Christchurch		101	101	Tuberculin Tested	100.0
Thorpe		78	65	Pasteurised	83.3
St. Cuthbert's R.C.		82	80	Pasteurised	97.6
		2382	2117		88.9%
		—	—		—

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Five hundred and thirteen children completed their course of immunisation during the year as follows :—

**Inoculated A.P.T.  
(2 injections)**

Elementary Schools ...	67
Under fives ...	446
<b>Total</b>	<b>513</b>

In addition 670 children, previously immunised, received boosting doses.

## SITES FOR MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There are two licensed sites within the district :

(a) **Anglers Rest Hotel Site.**

This is a well-maintained site and the type of moveable dwelling on the site is above the average. The site is served by two blocks of sanitary conveniences, one block for males and one block for females, and these are connected to main drainage. Main water supply is laid on. The maximum number of dwellings permitted on the site at any one time is 50. The majority of moveable dwellings on this site are used for week-end purposes. Bins are provided and regular collection of refuse is carried out by the Council.

(b) **Fishing Temple, Chertsey Lane.**

This site is also well-maintained and houses modern caravans of the motor-drawn trailer type. Most of the caravans are provided with their own Elsan sanitation although sanitary accommodation connected to a cesspool is available for those who prefer to use it. Main water supply is provided on the site. Bins are also provided and regular collection is undertaken by the Council.

The majority of the dwellings are used for week-end purposes, but a few are used for regular occupation.

In addition to the two permanent sites there are a number of moveable dwellings stationed on individual sites in various parts of the district. During the year 19 licences were issued covering the use of 29 moveable dwellings. Most of these moveable dwellings are used in full-time occupation as a direct result of the housing shortage.

Considerable trouble was experienced towards the end of the year on a small site in a rural area on which various moveable dwellings were stationed. A licence had been issued for the stationing of three moveable dwellings on this site by the owners, but various other moveable dwellings were allowed in from time to time and repeated inspections were necessary to prevent sanitary arrangements falling below the absolute minimum. This site also gave concern to other departments and it is unlikely that its use will be permitted to continue when the present licence expires.

## SECTION D

### HOUSING

1. **Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—**

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ... ... ... ...	387
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	990
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ... ... ... ...	—
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	—
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... ... ... ...	—
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	387

<b>2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices</b>						
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ... ... ... ... ...						
						332
<b>3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—</b>						
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :						
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ...					3
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :					
(a)	By owners ... ... ... ...					17
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners					1
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :						
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... ... ...					19
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :					
(a)	By owners ... ... ... ...					16
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners					—
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :						
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ...					—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ...					—
<b>4. Progress in Housing.</b>						
(1)	Houses erected during the year :					
(a)	by the local authority :—					
	traditional types ... ... ...					145
	prefabricated bungalows ... ...					90
(b)	by private enterprise ... ... ...					26
(2)	Houses in course of construction at the end of the year :					
(a)	by the local authority ... ... ...					70
(b)	by private enterprise ... ...					3
<b>5. Applications for Accommodation.</b>						

There were 1196 outstanding applications for Council houses at the end of the year.

## SECTION E

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## Ice-Cream.

During the year 41 samples of ice-cream were collected for examination and the results are summarised as under :—

## (a) Methylene Blue Test :

Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
13	9	7	12

## (b) Bacterial Count :

Under 1,000	...	...	...	...	8
More than 1,000 but less than 10,000				...	13
More than 10,000 but less than 50,000				...	7
More than 50,000 but less than 100,000				...	4
More than 100,000 but less than 500,000				...	3
More than 500,000	...	...	...	...	5

## (c) Coliform Test :

Absent in 1/10 ml.	...	...	...	...	24
Present in 1/10 ml.	...	...	...	...	16

Most attention continued to be given to those premises from which previous samples had been unsatisfactory. The tendency is now for the smaller producer retailers to turn over their allocation of raw materials to a large manufacturer and to buy from him the finished product rather than to instal equipment to comply with the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

Towards the end of the year a large producer of ice-cream commenced operations in this district having been forced to transfer the business from other premises in the London area. An existing factory building was converted for the purpose and up-to-date equipment installed.

## Milk Supply.

The inspection of farms, cowsheds and dairies has continued, and the standard of cleanliness noted has, in the main, been satisfactory.

The condition of the yard at one farm which has in the past given cause for some concern has been greatly improved by concreting, following informal representations made in 1947.

24 samples of milk were collected and sent for examination. The results are as follows :

## (a) Methylene Blue Test :

Of the 24 samples submitted 21 satisfied the test and 3 failed.

## (b) Bacterial Count :

23 samples were examined for bacterial count with the following results :

Not more than 50,000 ...	16
50,000—100,000 ...	5
100,000 and over ...	2

## (c) Coliform Test :

Absent in all dilutions ...	...	...	...	10
Present in 1 ml. only ...	...	...	...	3
Present in 1 ml. and 1/10 ml. ...	...	...	...	8
Present in 1 ml., 1/10 ml. and 1/100 ml. ...	...	...	...	3

## (d) Phosphatase Test :

The 3 samples submitted to this test were all satisfactory.

Most of the samples were obtained from retailers or producer-retailers. The number of samples collected was smaller than usual owing to difficulties experienced in making satisfactory arrangements for laboratory examination. These difficulties should no longer arise under the new arrangements made.

**Licences.**

The following licences were granted :—

Dealer's Licence to bottle and sell Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	...	2
Dealer's Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	...	3
Dealer's Licence to sell Accredited Milk ...	...	1
Dealer's Licence to sell Pasteurised Milk ...	...	2
Supplementary Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	...	4
Supplementary Licence to sell Pasteurised Milk ...	...	4

**Meat Inspection.**

Apart from an occasional "cottage's pig" killed under permit from the Ministry of Food, no slaughtering takes place within the Urban District, meat being supplied from Government controlled slaughterhouses in adjoining districts. Inspections were made and certificates given in respect of meat at various butcher's shops which was unfit for human consumption. The greater part of the meat which was unfit was beef affected by bone taint, a condition usually set up as a result of insufficient care in handling the meat at and immediately after the time of slaughter.

### Food Inspection.

During the year the food inspection of the area has been maintained and the following foods have been condemned :—

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	140 lbs. 14 ozs.
Bacon, canned	...	...	...	...	...	4 tins.
Beef Cubes	...	...	...	...	...	1504
Bengers Food	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Cake Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	1 packet
Cereals	...	...	...	...	...	9 packets
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.; 43 packets
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs. 9 ozs.
Dates	...	...	...	...	...	38 boxes
Egg, dried	...	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	646
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	75 $\frac{1}{2}$ stone; 3 boxes
Fish, canned	...	...	...	...	...	55 tins
Fish preparations	...	...	...	...	...	195 tins; 1 jar
Flour, plain	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	907 lbs.
Fruit, bottled	...	...	...	...	...	12 jars
Fruit, canned	...	...	...	...	...	131 tins
Liver, bovine	...	...	...	...	...	33 lbs.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
Meat, cooked, and Meat Preparations	...	...	...	...	...	36 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.; 137 tins
Meat, English	...	...	...	...	...	544 lbs. 13 ozs.
Meat, Imported	...	...	...	...	...	27 lbs. 9 ozs.
Milk, condensed and evaporated	...	...	...	...	...	92 tins
Pickles	...	...	...	...	...	14 jars
Poultry	...	...	...	...	...	7 birds
Poultry Spread	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Preserves	...	...	...	...	...	22 tins; 6 jars
Pudding Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	291 packets
Puddings, various	...	...	...	...	...	4 tins
Sauce	...	...	...	...	...	832 bottles
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	31 tins
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	...	5 tins
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	2 cwts. 6 lbs.
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	...	10 tins
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	156 tins

The condition of much of the foodstuffs found to be unfit could be attributed to careless packing, or handling in transit, or to delays in transit.

In one case, consignments of fish often arrived at the railway station at the week-end after the local branch of a large firm of fishmongers had closed, and was left lying there till Monday morning, when all too frequently it was found to be unfit. Representations were made to the firm concerned, following which better arrangements were made and no further trouble arose from that cause.

In another case two sacks of sugar were badly damaged during transit by rail. They had apparently been left lying in a pool of dirty water which had soaked so far into the contents as to make them unfit for anything but salvage.

In a third case a consignment of oranges was received in the district, but delivery had been so long delayed, in this case it is understood due to shipping difficulties, that the fruit was in a poor state on arrival and by the next morning some cases contained little more than pulp.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Food and Drugs authority for this district is the Surrey County Council. The following is a summary of the work done by that authority during the year.

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular			Prosecutions	Convictions
	Frml.	Infrml.	Total	Frml.	Infrml.	Total		
Milk	56	9	65	8	—	8	1	1
Icing and								
Icing Sugar	3	1	4	2	1	3	—	—
Meat Extract	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Mineral Oil	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—
Saccharin	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Spirits	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Vinegar	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
White Pudding	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Wine	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals :	60	16	76	10	2	12	1	1

## SECTION F

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

#### Influenza.

A mild outbreak—only two deaths recorded.

#### Pneumonia.

Four cases were notified, 3 males and 1 female, and two were treated in Hospital. The youngest was 60 and the oldest 79. 4 males and 2 females died.

#### Scarlet Fever.

Of the five cases recorded, three were sent to the Isolation Hospital. One of the cases contracted the disease from her child who was nursed at home and was notified in the previous December. The sister of

another case had been at home with Tonsilitis for four weeks. Of the cases admitted to Hospital—one was from a Day Nursery, and another came from a house where a baby was born the day before.

### **Diphtheria.**

No cases occurred during the year.

### **Measles.**

154 cases were reported—an average epidemic. There were no deaths.

### **Whooping Cough.**

124 cases. This is a 40% increase on the previous year.

### **Acute Poliomyelitis.**

One case occurred at the end of August—a girl of 15 years who was badly affected—many groups of muscles being paralysed. Contacts were carefully followed up and no further cases occurred in spite of the patient being at a party on the second day of her illness. She was on holiday from a school in Stepney.

### **Cerebro-Spinal Fever.**

One case treated in Hospital, a girl of 14 months from a Nursery Home.

### **Erysipelas.**

Four cases—two treated in Hospital.

In addition, 155 cases of chicken pox, 25 cases of mumps, and 12 cases of jaundice were notified by the school authorities as occurring amongst school-children.

### **Tuberculosis.**

There were 33 cases added to the Register during the year. 21 of these were transfers into the district and 12 were new cases occurring in the district. The figures still remain at the high level of the past 7 years.

## NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
15—	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	—
25—	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
35—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Totals	7	2	1	2	8	4	—	—

## Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action has been necessary under Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

## Disinfection.

The rooms of 30 houses were sprayed or fumigated, following cases of infectious disease.

## Cancer.

Forty-two cases died from cancer during the year—18 males and 24 females, being 13 cases less than last year.

The age incidence of these 42 cases is as follows :—

	0-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81-90	Over 90
Males	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	9	2	—
Females	—	1	—	2	2	4	5	7	2	1

The place incidence as regards Wards is as follows :—

	Town	Egham Hythe	Englefeld Green	Virginia Water	Thorpe
Males	7	4	2	2	3
Females	7	2	7	6	2

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small pox	...	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	5	3
Diphtheria	...	—	—
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—
Pneumonia	...	4	2
Erysipelas	...	4	1
Other Diseases notifiable locally	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	—	—
Continued Fever	...	—	—
Dysentery	...	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	...	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	1	1
Malaria Induced	...	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	1	1
Whooping Cough	...	124	—
Measles	...	154	—

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE. The numbers of cases during the past five years are as follows :—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Smallpox	...	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	23	9	34	29
Diphtheria	...	3	2	—	4
Erysipelas	...	6	5	1	2
Enteric Fever	...	—	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Fever	...	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	—	3	1	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	23	30	20	27	30
Tuberculosis (non-Pulmonary)	6	3	14	4	3
Measles	...	108	181	18	222
Whooping Cough	...	48	31	11	85
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	—	—	—	—
Malaria	...	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	...	12	9	10	18
Dysentery	...	10	7	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	—	—	—	—
Continued Fever	...	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—	1	1	2
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—
	239	283	112	394	326

## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES—Classified in Wards

WARDS	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Erysipelas	Measles	Pneumonia	Acute Anterior Polio-myelitis	Pul. T. B.	Non Pul. T. B.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough
TOWN ...	—	2	63	1	—	4	1	1	33
EGHAM HYTHE ...	—	—	28	—	—	6	—	—	6
ENGLEFIELD GREEN	1	1	27	2	1	9	1	1	71
VIRGINIA WATER ...	—	1	19	1	—	5	—	1	9
THORPE ...	...	—	—	17	—	—	6	1	2
Totals ...	1	4	154	4	1	30	3	5	124

## ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES DURING 1948 UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Under							65 and			Total	
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44	45-64	
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	1	1	5
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	124
Whooping Cough	...	...	11	20	20	17	13	39	4	5	2	154
Measles	...	...	1	18	11	15	15	84	5	1	1	—
Totals	...	...	12	39	32	32	28	124	11	2	3	293
										1	1	8

## PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS

The maternity service cares for the infants. School children attend the Eye Clinic in the Drill Hall, Kings Road, Egham, and the adults can also attend this clinic by arrangement.

The larger factories cater for the treatment of their own employees through their own First Aid Posts.

Visitors call on the blind from time to time.

